

WESTMORLAND COUNTY COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

COUNTY MEDICAL
OFFICER OF HEALTH.

THE YEAR 1941

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County of Westmorland.

Public Health Department,
County Hall,
Kendal,
December, 1942.

To the Chairman and Members of the County Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of Dr. Alcock, who left the Council on his appointment as Medical Officer of Health of Burton-upon-Trent in February, 1942, we beg to present the Annual Report for his last year of office.

In accordance with instructions received with regard to the restriction on paper and in view of Circular 2604 of the 24th March, 1942, from the Ministry of Health, that care should be taken not to publish in such report complete tables of local populations, or quotations from the figures supplied by the Registrar-General, we have curtailed this report to essential details.

We should point out, however, that a number of schemes have since been brought into operation which were envisaged during the year 1941.

During the year of this report, Dr. Alcock also had the help and co-operation of the other members of the Health Department Staff and Dr. Cockill.

We have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servants,
J. WRIGHT,
J. F. DOW,
Joint County Medical Officers.

District Medical Officer of Health.

<i>Name.</i>			<i>Urban District.</i>
W. Baron Cockill, M.D., D.P.H.	...		Appleby
"	"	"	Kendal
"	"	"	Lakes Urban
"	"	"	Windermere
			<i>Rural District.</i>
"	"	"	North Westmorland.
"	"	"	South Westmorland

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY IN 1941.

Name.	Qualifications.	Office.	Whole or Part Time.	Other Offices.
W. Alcock	.. M.B., Ch.B., B.Hy., D P.H.	County Medical Officer	Part	School Medical Officer, County of Westmorland and Borough of Kendal.
J. M. L. Wright	.. L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.	Assist. do.	"	Assist. do. M. & C.W. & Inspector of Mid- wives.
J. F. Dow	.. M.D., Ch.B.	Staff Medical Officer in charge of A.R.P.	Whole	
J. Munro Campbell	.. M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Tuberculosis Officer	Part	Medical Superintendent, Meathop Sanatorium.
John Irvine	.. L.D.S.	Senior Dental Officer.	Whole	
W. McGregor Morton	.. L.D.S.	Assist. Dental Officer.	Part	School Dental Officer for Borough of Kendal.
Officers on loan from other Authorities:				
M. Anderson	.. M.B., B.S. . .	.. Assistant School Medical Officer	Whole	From Newcastle.
M. J. O'Meara	.. L.D.S.	.. Dental Officer	.. ..	"

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres, land and inland water)	...	...	504,917
Population (Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population, mid 1941)	...	...	76,580
Total Rateable Value as on 1st April, 1941	...	£429,928	10 0
Estimated product of a Penny Rate (General County) for the financial year 1941-42	...	£1,690	0 0

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1941.

			Total.	Males.	Females.
Live Births—Legitimate	...	...	838	426	412
Illegitimate	...	...	60	32	28
			—	—	—
Total Births	...	...	898	458	440
			—	—	—

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 11.7.

Birth Rate, England and Wales, 14.2.

			Total.	Males.	Females.
Stillbirths	...	...	21	10	11
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths,			22.8.		

			Total.	Males.	Females.
Deaths	...	...	954	453	501
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population,			12.4.		
Death Rate, England and Wales,			12.9.		

Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy or Childbirth:—

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	Nil
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	2

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, for the purpose of calculating Maternal Mortality, 2.1.

Maternal Mortality Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 2.23.

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 total live births	...	...	46
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	42
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	100
Infantile Death Rate, England and Wales,			59.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	140
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	Nil

1941.

District.	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population.	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population.	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 births for purpose of calculating Infant Mortality.
URBAN.			
Appleby	13.6	11.2	34
Kendal	11.6	12.2	53
Lakes	9.2	10.9	41
Windermere	7.7	11.2	30
RURAL.			
North Westmorland	14.2	13.2	55
South Westmorland	11.9	13.3	40
Westmorland	11.7	12.4	46
England and Wales	14.2	12.9	59

The Births registered in the last 5 years were as follows:—

Year	...	...	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.
No. of Births	...	...	884	884	902	854	898

The chief causes of deaths in Westmorland in 1941, in order of maximum fatality, were as follows:—

Cause.	No. of Deaths in 1941.	No. of Deaths in 1940.
Heart Disease	224	249
Cancer	140	103
Cerebral Haemorrhage	106	84
Bronchitis	27	60
Other circulatory diseases	29	42
Other digestive diseases	24	38
Nephritis	51	32
Other deaths from violence	43	29
Pneumonia	30	26
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	29	22

Causes of Death of Infants under 1 year in 1941, including the
Borough of Kendal.

Deaths in order of fatality:—

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	14
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	14
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	5
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	...	...	5
Other causes	...	...	...	...	3
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	1
					—
Total				...	42
					—

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

During 1941 the following payments were made to the District Nursing Associations from the County Council:—

	£	s.	d.
Maternity and Child Welfare Health Visiting ...	1310	0	0
Tuberculosis After-care Visiting ...	255	0	0
School Nursing ...	341	0	0
Midwives Act Services ...	2120	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£4026	0	0

A report follows made by the Assistant County Medical Officer of Health to the County Nursing Association on the work done by the 33 District Nurses acting as Health Visitors for the County Council.

**REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT NURSES
IN WESTMORLAND IN 1941.**

Domiciliary Maternity Nursing.

			Corresponding figures 1940.
Midwifery Cases	..	159	.. 154
Maternity Cases	..	286	.. 297
		—	—
Total Cases	..	445	.. 451
		—	—

There were no deaths from Puerperal Fever during the year. Three cases of Puerperal Fever were notified and two had to be removed to hospital.

Infant Welfare.

Actual Infants visited ..	..	572	..	590
Total Health visits to Infants ..	..	6149	..	6442
Total Health visits to Toddlers ..	..	7096	..	7485

Infants under a year are visited monthly, weighed and examined by the nurse. Toddlers up to five years are reported on quarterly.

If an Infant Welfare Clinic is held in the area, the mothers are encouraged to bring the children to be weighed and examined to lessen the work of domiciliary visiting. The nurses assist at the Clinics.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

11 Clinics were held monthly. Burnbanks clinic was closed.

The voluntary workers at the clinics have again rendered valuable service and their task has been increased by the responsibility placed upon the Welfare Centres for the distribution of the Government's allowance of Fruit Juice and Cod Liver Oil.

In most areas this is distributed once a fortnight and involves a great deal of work and time, but it is greatly appreciated by the mothers who have shown considerable enthusiasm for the scheme, even if the babies have shown a greater enthusiasm for the fruit juice than for the Cod Liver Oil.

Diphtheria Immunisation is being carried out at the clinics and the acceptance by the parents has been very good indeed, due largely to the good influence of the nurse.

This pre-school immunisation is very important as the most vulnerable age is from 1 to 4.

A travelling Film Unit of the Ministry of Information is visiting each clinic with health films of interest to mothers, and the publicity necessary to ensure good audiences is being undertaken by the nurses and the local school teachers.

Total Attendances at Clinics.

			Corresponding figures 1940.
Under 1 year	..	524	.. 708
Over 1 year ..	..	1434	.. 1656
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	..	1958	.. 2364
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Average per Session:—			
Under 1 year	..	5	
Over 1 year ..	..	14	
		—	19 21

Staveley has a very well attended clinic, the total attendances numbering 399, followed by Ambleside with 335, Burneside 333, and Windermere 300.

School Nursing.

The nurses are now weighing and measuring the children at every school once a quarter, as well as assisting at Medical Inspection and following up special cases.

Good co-operation is being achieved between the nurses and the teachers in most schools, and this is bringing the nurse into closer contact with the health of the children.

The work of the nurses is increasing every year and the scarcity of nurses makes it difficult to get relief nurses when required, so that many of our nurses have great difficulty in getting off for a rest.

Under these circumstances it is hoped that the importance of week-ends will be kept in mind by the different associations, and that a regular working arrangement for short reliefs by neighbouring districts will be arranged.

J. WRIGHT,

Assistant County Medical Officer.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Infant Life Protection.

Under the above Act the Infant Protection Visitors are the various District Nurses, who act under the direction of Dr. Wright.

In the County during 1941 the figures were as follows:—

Number of persons on the Register who were receiving children for reward at end of the year	...	...	22
Number of children on the Register:—			
(1) At the end of the year	...	...	22
(2) Who died during the year	...	...	Nil

School Welfare.

In 1941, including the Borough of Kendal, the Nurses paid 2,086 visits to the homes in connection with school children, 4,353 children had dental treatment, 10,648 had dental inspection, and 7,155 had medical inspection and 768 had special eye examinations.

During 1941, one child was an in-patient at the Westmorland Sanatorium, Meathop, and 12 children were in residence at the Ethel Hedley Orthopaedic Hospital, Windermere. Further details of the work for school children will be found in the School Medical Reports.

In addition to the above, 6 children below school age were in residence at the Ethel Hedley Orthopaedic Hospital, Windermere.

MIDWIVES ACTS, 1902, 1917 AND 1936.

Total number of Midwives practising at the end of the year, 48; of these District Nurses numbered 31.

Nurses in Institutions: 11, viz.:—

(a) Westmorland County Hospital	...	...	3
(b) Helme Chase Maternity Home	...	...	2
(c) St. Monica's Maternity Home, Kendal	...	...	2
(d) Public Assistance Institution, Kendal	...	...	1
(e) Private Nursing Homes	...	...	3

Salaried Midwives employed by the County Council: 2. Midwives in private (domiciliary) practice: 3.

Midwives' Notification Forms received during 1941 were as follows:—

Notification of sending for Medical Aid	...	...	154
Notification of Artificial Feeding	...	...	2
Notification of Stillbirth	...	...	8
Notification of Death	...	...	1
Notification of Laying Out of a Dead Body	...	...	3
Notification of Liability to be a source of infection	...	...	4

The Midwives Act, 1936, is carried out in the County by the District Nursing Services, and in the Borough of Kendal by the two salaried Midwives employed directly by the County Council.

Cases attended during 1941 are as follows:—

Domiciliary Cases.

	As midwives without a doctor.	As Mater- nity Nurses with a doctor.
In the County of Westmorland by the District Nurses ...	159	286
In the Borough of Kendal by the County Council Midwives ...	166	35
In the County and Borough by Mid- wives in Private Practice ...	5	12
	<hr/> 330 <hr/>	<hr/> 333 <hr/>

Cases in Institutions.

Public Assistance Institution	215	116
Voluntary Hospitals	49	27
Private Nursing Homes...	11	44
	<hr/> 275 <hr/>	<hr/> 187 <hr/>
Grand Total	605	520

Gas-Air Analgesics.

During the year the Kendal Midwives have administered analgesics to 85 cases. (To Maternity cases, 31; to Midwifery cases, 54).

SCHEME FOR ANTENATAL AND POST NATAL MEDICAL SUPERVISION OF MIDWIVES' CASES.

The Scheme operates in the County of Westmorland and the Borough of Kendal.

During 1941, reports on the number of women examined by their own medical practitioners were as follows:—

No. of women antenatally examined.	No. of reports.
212	251

The results of the antenatal examinations on the 212 women were as follows:—

Normal cases to be undertaken by a midwife.	Abnormal cases to be undertaken by a doctor.	Cases to be admitted to Hospital for confinement.	Abnormal cases for extra antenatal visits.
181	7	21	3
Postnatal examinations. 77		Found to require treatment. 4	

DENTAL TREATMENT FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

Report of Senior Dental Officer for the year ended 31st December, 1941.

During the year under review 51 patients have been treated within the scope of the scheme. This is a increase of 14 over last year. The total number of visits made by patients to the clinic 154, is an increase of 47 over last year. By far the largest number of patients attend at the Kendal Clinic, the majority of these being Kendal Borough Cases. The greater part of treatment is by means of extraction and provision of dentures. During the year 12 general anaesthetics were administered, nine of these being given by local medical practitioners at patients' homes and the other three gas anaesthetics given at the Kendal Clinic. In all, 28 dentures were provided during the year, an increase of 10 over last year.

A total of 40 sessions were devoted to the work during the year, i.e., approximately one session per working week.

J. IRVINE,

Senior Dental Officer.

THE PUERPERAL PYREXIA REGULATIONS, 1939.

During 1941, 7 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified. (See Tables, Notifiable Diseases, pages 19-20). One of these patients was admitted to the Lancaster Isolation Hospital for treatment and two were admitted to Carlisle Infectious Diseases Hospital.

MATERNITY HOSPITAL TREATMENT.

Cases assisted during 1941.

Seventy patients received the grant for Helme Chase Maternity Home or the Maternity Ward of the Westmorland County Hospital, under the County Council Maternity Hospital Scheme.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

In 1941 there were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis.

The total mortality rate was 2.1 per 1,000 total (live and still) births; that for Engand and Wales was 2.23.

REGISTRATON OF NURSING HOMES

(Sections 187 to 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936).

One new Home was registered during the year. There were 6 Registered Homes at the end of the year, providing beds for 11 maternity patients and 49 other patients.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

The County Council has continued to be represented on the County Health Insurance Committee who have representatives on the County Sanatorium Benefit Sub-Committee, and among the Governors of the Westmorland Sanatorium are representatives of the County Health Insurance Committee.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MEDICAL RELIEF.

For Public Assistance Administration the County is divided into two areas, North and South Westmorland, and Medical Officers resident in various parts of the County carry out the work.

NUTRITION IN CHILDREN.

There is still no definite evidence of increasing malnutrition to be found in the School Medical Inspection Reports, although the number of children classified as excellent falls far short of what one might expect in a country area.

Advice on nutrition is given to parents at Infant Welfare Centres and School Inspections.

Nutrition.		Kendal Children.		Rest of County.
Excellent	25.6	47.7
Normal	65.5	44.2
Slightly Sub-normal	8.9	7.9
Bad	—	.12

These percentages were struck on a total of 1,228 Kendal children and 5,677 rest of County children.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

These consist of the following:—

1. Examination of specimens for the Westmorland Combined Districts is carried out at the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory, Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle.
2. At the Westmorland Sanatorium, Meathop, sputum is examined for Tubercle Bacilli. Suitable containers are issued by the County Health Department to the doctors practising in the County.
3. Under the Public Health (V.D.) Regulations, blood and other specimens are examined at the Public Health Laboratory of Manchester University.
4. Samples of Milk are examined for cleanliness by the Methylene Blue and B.Coli tests, and biologically for the Tubercle Bacillus at the Pathological Laboratory, Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle.
5. Analyses in connection with the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are conducted for the County by the County Analyst at his Laboratory at Darlington, and for the Borough by the Borough Analyst at his Laboratory at Liverpool.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

General Hospital.

The Westmorland County Hospital continues to give its invaluable services to the County for medical and surgical cases. The Honorary Medical Staff consists of 6 consultant specialists, among whom are an Ophthalmic Surgeon, a Laryngologist, an Orthopaedic Surgeon and a Gynaecologist.

The Maternity block has 8 beds.

The Council's Institutions at Kendal and Kirkby Stephen continue to serve their useful purpose, and necessitous cases, maternity and general, are undertaken by these hospitals.

Helme Chase Maternity Home.

This Home is administered by a joint committee of representatives of the Westmorland County Hospital and the County Council.

It was opened on the 4th December, 1939. There are 13 beds provided, together with one Labour Ward and one Isolation Bed. This provision is in addition to the 6 beds provided at the Westmorland County Hospital. During 1941, 321 patients were admitted to the Helme Chase Maternity Home.

St. Monica's Maternity Home.

(Carlisle Diocesan Maternity Home).

The Home possesses 20 maternity beds. 56 maternity cases were admitted in 1941.

Infectious Diseases.

These are treated in the Isolation Hospitals at Kendal, Windermere and Ormside.

In order to cope with minor Infectious Disease and contagious skin conditions amongst evacuated children, a sick bay was opened at Windermere under the direction of the Windermere U.D.C. This sick bay (Waterbeck) was opened in December, 1940. Cases of measles, whooping cough, mumps, chicken-pox, scabies, impetigo and ringworm are admitted. There are 50 beds.

Puerperal Fever Hospital Treatment.

Since the County Hospital has ceased to admit cases of Puerperal Fever these cases are treated, provided accommodation permits, at Lancaster Isolation Hospital, or at the City Fever Hospital, Carlisle.

In spite of every effort, sanction has not been obtained for the building of a new Isolation Hospital which is very urgently required.

Mental Defectives.

Institutional treatment is undertaken at Dovenby Hall, Cocker-mouth, and at Milnthorpe, and the after-care is carried out by the Cumberland and Westmorland Voluntary Mental Welfare Association.

Orthopaedic Surgery.

Orthopaedic surgery for children is undertaken at the Ethel Hedley Hospital, Windermere, where there are 50 beds, and clinics are held at Kendal and Penrith. The Hospital is approved by the Board of Education as a Hospital School.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACTS, 1926-38.

In 1941 a grant in aid on account of work done was made as follows:—

No. of Cottages.	Situation.	Works Carried out.	Grant.
8 ..	Low Biggins, Kirkby Lonsdale.	Improvement ..	£114 8s.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

This Act came into operation in October, 1939. The County Council are the Authority for the whole of Westmorland. In the case of Kendal the County Council pay £50 per annum to the Kendal Corporation for carrying out work under this Act.

The Analyst for the County (excluding the Borough of Kendal) is Mr. C. J. H. Stock, B.Sc., F.I.C. The collection of samples is in the hands of the County Police.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNTY ANALYST.

1. During the 12 months ended the 31st December, 1941, I have analysed 108 samples of Food and Drugs submitted by the Sampling Officers appointed for the County of Westmorland under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, viz.:—

From the Appleby Division	..	50
From the Kendal Division	..	58
		<hr/> 108

2. Compared with the number of samples received for analysis during the year 1940, these figures show an increase of 5, the difference being mainly accounted for by the increase in the number of samples of milk taken as appeal samples, of which there were 7 in 1941, and 3 in 1940, so that the actual incidence of sampling maintains a fairly constant level.

3. The table hereunder gives a summary of the results of the analysis of samples received, the action taken in respect of those found not to be of genuine quality, with the outcome of such action:—

No. of milk samples submitted	..	..	..	71
No. of samples of other articles	..	..	..	37
				<hr/> 108
No. of samples adulterated or below standard	..			8
No. of samples of genuine quality but below standard	..			5
No. of samples of doubtful quality	..	..		1
No. of reference samples	..	..	..	0
No. of appeal samples	..	..	..	7
No. of persons cautioned	..	..	..	2
No. of persons summoned	..	..	..	2
No. of persons convicted	..	..	..	2
No. of persons to pay costs only	..	..	..	0
No. of cases withdrawn	..	..	..	0
No. of cases in which no action was taken	..	..	..	0
No. of persons noted for further sampling	..	..	..	3
No. of cases pending at end of year	..	..	..	0
Amount of Fines	..	..	..	£10 0 0
Amount of Costs	..	..	..	£14 19 4

The number of samples reported as being adulterated or below standard was the same as in 1940.

4. The percentage of adulteration for the past year was 8.0; for the 12 months ended the 31st December, 1940, it was also 8.0. In each case all samples reported as not being of genuine quality are included in these figures, and genuine samples below standard are taken into account in the total number for the purpose of calculation, but samples of doubtful quality, reference and appeal samples are not included.

5. Throughout the year 1941, 64 samples of milk were taken in the ordinary course of inspection, 1 more than in the previous year, and of these, 5 samples were found to be of genuine quality but below standard, 7 samples were adulterated or below standard, and 1 sample was

returned as being of doubtful quality. For the investigation of the samples adulterated or below standard, following the usual procedure which has proved to be so satisfactory over a number of years, 7 appeal to cow samples were taken of which 3 were genuine, 1 was deficient both in non-fatty solids and in fat, 2 were deficient in non-fatty solids only, and 1 sample was deficient in fat. In those cases where there was a deficiency in non-fatty solids the freezing point was found to be normal for genuine, unwatered milk, and the range of freezing point for the 7 appeal samples was from -539°C. to -562°C. , limits recognised for genuine milk. The analytical figures afforded by the appeal samples when compared with the data found on analysis of the samples which were the subject of adverse reports showed that the deficiency in 2 of these samples, both purchased from the same producer, was due unquestionably to the addition of water to the extent of not less than 21.0%; the vendor was summoned and was found guilty of the offence with which he was charged. The other 5 samples reported as adulterated or below standard were all deficient in fat, but no proceedings were instituted in any of these cases, the only action taken being to caution 2 vendors, while 3 were noted for further sampling:

6. The 51 samples of milk reported as being of genuine quality, complying with the requirements of the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939, gave the average composition shown hereunder:—

Non-fatty solids	..	..	8.79%
Fat	..	..	3.74%

For the year ended the 31st December, 1940, the average composition of 54 samples of milk of genuine quality was:—

Non-fatty solids	..	..	8.77%
Fat	..	..	3.72%

It will be noted that these figures are almost identical for the 2 years, and are of particular interest because of the statements which have been made from time to time that the shortage of concentrated feeding stuffs, and also the alleged poor quality of home produced feeding stuffs, have been responsible for deficiencies in non-fatty solids, but the record given in your Analyst's Quarterly Reports of the content of non-fatty solids and of fat in milk, as well as the annual averages, certainly do not reflect any deterioration in the quality of milk as supplied in the County of Westmorland, even after two years of war. The percentage of adulteration for milk in 1941 was 11.11, and for the 12 months ended the 31st December, 1940, it was 12.70.

7. **Other samples.** Articles other than milk received for analysis during 1941 numbered 20, represented by 37 samples of which Camphorated Oil and Cream of Tartar are medicaments, although Cream of Tartar is used in the preparation of food; during 1940 the number of samples was 37, but in this year the articles inspected were 27 in number. With the exception of 1 sample, all the articles which were submitted for analysis were found to be of satisfactory quality and to comply with their descriptions in every respect. The nature and number of the samples is given in the following table:—

Baking Powder	..	..	2
Camphorated Oil	..	..	1
Cocoa	..	..	3
Coffee	..	..	1
Cornflour	..	..	2

Cream of Tartar	1
Custard Powder	1
Egg Substitute Powder ..	5
Ice Cream	2
Jam	2
Margarine	1
Oatmeal	2
Onion Substitute Powder ..	2
Pepper	1
Sausage	3
Sausage Meat	1
Semolina	1
Sugar Substitute	2
Vinegar	2
Whisky	2

The sample which was the subject of an adverse report was described as an Egg Substitute Powder, "Whole Egg Equivalent," but on analysis it was found to contain no egg at all and to consist of a mixture of Wheat Flour which had been coloured with a yellow dye, Bicarbonate of Soda, Soya Bean Meal and possibly some Gum. Proceedings were instituted and the defendants were convicted, a fine and costs being inflicted.

8. Apart from the above observations the work of the Quarter has been of the usual character and calls for no further comment.

CYRIL J. H. STOCK,
County Analyst.

In the milks the highest fat content was 8.7% and the highest non-fatty solids content was 9.65%.

The average percentage of milk fats and non-fatty solids in all milks (genuine and non-genuine) was 3.75% and 8.58% respectively.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912.

	No. of samples examined for presence of preservative	No. of samples in which preservative was found.
Milk	95	Nil

For the Borough of Kendal the analyst is Mr. W. H. Roberts, M.Sc., F.I.C., Liverpool.

The Medical Officer of Health in his Annual Report for 1941 for the Borough of Kendal includes the following information:—

Article.	No. of Samples	Result.	Remarks.
Milk ..	91	Genuine.	Vendors warned. Legal proceedings in 4 cases resulting in fines of: £7 10s. 0d. and £2 2s. 0d., costs. £2 and £1 1s. 0d. costs. £2 and vendor struck off register. Other vendors warned.
,, ..	5	Abnormal Composition.	
,, ..	4	Deficient in Fat.	
,, ..	15	Added Water.	
Bun Flour ..	1	Genuine	Free from Preservative
Coffee ..	3	,,	
Cocoa ..	1	,,	
Sandwich Paste ..	1	,,	
Fish Cakes ..	1	,,	
Black Puddings ..	4	,,	
Cheese Powder ..	1	,,	
Ground Cinamon ..	1	,,	
Oatmeal ..	1	,,	
Pearl Barley ..	1	,,	
Ice Cream ..	1	,,	No milk products. Contained milk products properly acquired before prohibition as laid down by Milk (Restriction) Order 1941.
,, ..	1	,,	
Oranjeast ..	1	Article falsely described.	Wheat flour containing small quantity of onion flavouring. Articles withdrawn from sale.
Onion Powder ..	1		
Eggstead ..	1	Genuine.	Sweetened with Saccharine without being clearly indicated. Vendor warned and all other supplies labelled accordingly.
Lem-lem ..	1	,,	
Sweetened Cake Flour ..	1	Genuine but incorrectly labelled.	
Sweetened Custard Powder ..	1	Genuine but incorrectly labelled.	ditto.
Egg Saving Powder ..	1	Genuine.	Contained saccharine which was not indicated. Vendors warned. Further sales amended accordingly.
Sweetule ..	1	Genuine but incorrectly labelled.	
Whiskey ..	1	Genuine.	Informal sample. Musty taste and odour. Strength and proof correct.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1941.

	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever.	Paratyphoid Fever.	Erysipelas	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	Pneumonia	Encephalitis Lethargica	Polio-myelitis	Polio-encephalitis	Cerebro-spinal Fever.	Relapsing Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles	Whooping Cough
Appleby	—	9	—	—	—	—	3	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	33
Kendal	—	21	5	4	—	6	30	1	5	1	—	—	5	1	4	1	62	81
Lakes	—	11	1	—	—	1	2	4	4	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	36	26
Windermere	—	3	—	1	—	3	8	3	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	103	24
North Westmorland ..	—	18	4	1	2	5	13	11	32	1	—	—	17	—	3	—	99	200
South Westmorland ..	—	8	7	—	2	5	15	11	12	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	97	60
Total	—	70	17	6	4	20	71	41	60	3	2	1	26	1	7	1	402	424

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1941.

Ages.	Scarlet Fever.	Smallpox.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Paratyphoid Fever.	Erysipelas.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica	Polio- myelitis.	Polio- encephalitis	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Relapsing Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Measles	Whooping Cough
Under 1 year ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	30
1 " ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	9	29
2 " ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	24	49
3 " ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	23	53
4 " ..	5	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	21	57
5 " ..	32	—	5	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	154	169
10- " ..	14	—	4	2	—	1	4	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	123	21
15- " ..	3	—	3	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	20	2
20- " ..	4	—	1	1	3	2	5	—	—	—	5	—	5	—	13	5
35- " ..	2	—	1	2	—	1	9	1	—	—	6	—	—	—	7	4
45- " ..	1	—	—	—	1	11	11	1	—	—	3	1	—	—	2	4
65 and over ..	—	—	—	1	—	3	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total Cases notified	70	—	17	6	4	20	60	3	2	1	26	1	7	1	402	424
Cases admitted to Hospital ..	65	—	14	6	4	3	5	2	2	1	22	—	3	1	1	3
Total Deaths ..	—	—	3	1	—	—	11	3	—	1	7	—	—	—	1	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

A table will be found on page 20 detailing the incidence of these diseases in 1941. The Registrar-General has supplied figures as to the incidence per 1,000 of the estimated average population of notifications of certain diseases in 1941 in England and Wales. In the following table the incidence of notifications of these diseases in Westmorland is compared with that of England and Wales:—

Notification Rates per 1,000 of the estimated resident population in 1941.

Disease.	Westmorland.	England & Wales.
Typhoid Fever ...	...	0.03
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.52	0.09
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	0.33	0.25
Scarlet Fever ...	0.63	1.47
Whooping Cough ...	5.53	4.39
Diphtheria ...	0.22	1.25
Erysipelas ...	0.26	0.30
Smallpox ...	—	—
Measles ...	5.24	10.33
Pneumonia ...	0.78	1.25

It is satisfactory to record that the incidence of infectious disease generally was at a low level. Immunisation against Diphtheria is being carried out steadily.

BLIND PERSONS ACT, 1929.

This Act is administered by a Committee.

The examination and certification previous to the registration of a blind person is carried out by the Assistant County Medical Officer.

The Barrow and District Society for the Blind and the Carlisle Workshops for the Blind render valuable help in all matters pertaining to the Blind.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

In 1941, one case of this disease was notified. There was no impairment of vision.

CANCER ACT, 1939.

A scheme has been drawn up by the Sub-Committee, approved by the Council, and submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval.

Deaths from Cancer, 1941.

		Males	Females	Total
Urban Districts	...	31	30	61
Rural Districts	...	31	48	79
Grand Total				140

Deaths from Cancer in 1940 were 103.

TUBERCULOSIS.

In the following Table are the figures for the notifications of, and deaths from, Tuberculosis in 1941.

TUBERCULOSIS IN 1941.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
1	—	—	6	2	—	—	2	1
5	7	1	4	5	—	—	—	—
15	9	11	3	2	1	5	1	2
25	15	9	4	6	1	5	—	1
35	5	3	2	3	1	4	—	—
45	5	3	—	2	3	2	—	1
55	2	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
65	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTAL	43	28	20	21	8	18	3	6
1940	32	26	7	6	11	13	3	1

It is regretted that there is a striking increase in Tuberculosis during the year 1941.

In 1941, 48 patients were admitted to the Westmorland Sanatorium, Meathop. (See page 24).

Eleven patients suffering from surgical tuberculosis of the bones or joints received in-patient treatment as follows:—

In the Ethel Hedley Orthopaedic Hospital ... 5

In the Oswestry Hospital ... 5

Arrangements were made at the beginning of the year with Dr. G. Lissant Cox, of the Lancashire County Tuberculosis Service, for cases of major chest surgery to be admitted to the special surgical unit at the High Carley Sanatorium, Ulverston. One patient was admitted during the year.

The report which follows has been prepared by Dr. J. Munro Campbell, the Clinical Tuberculosis Officer, who is also Medical Superintendent of the Westmorland Sanatorium, Meathop.

COUNTY OF WESTMORLAND TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME.

Under this scheme the Medical Superintendent of the Sanatorium acts as clinical tuberculosis officer and carries out Dispensary work at Kendal, Appleby and Meathop, as well as domiciliary visiting of patients in the more outlying areas of the county.

Though the evening sessions at the Kendal Dispensary are suspended during the winter months, the total number of Dispensary attendances was well maintained with 549 visits. The number of visits paid to patients in their homes was 242, including 62 consultations held with the patients' private practitioners. The total number of patients seen for the first time in connection with the tuberculosis scheme was 234.

	Pulmonary.				Non-Pulmonary				Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female Children	Male	Female	Male	Female Children	
Patients on register 1/1/41	86	90	20	10	10	22	14	11	263
Patients "transferred in"	16	12	0	0	1	1	3	0	33
New Cases T.B.—	8	4	3	0	4	3	5	4	47
New Cases T.B. +	7	9	0	0	0				
Recovered	1	5	1	1	1	1	4	2	16
Died	8	17	0	0	0	2	0	0	27
Removed	9	9	0	0	1	1	1	0	21
Lost sight of, etc.	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
On register 31/12/41	97	84	20	9	13	22	17	13	275

The above table shows that of the 234 patients seen for the first time under the County Scheme 33 were patients transferred in from other areas, whilst 47 cases were diagnosed "tuberculous" for the first time. Except for a few cases still under consideration the remainder were regarded as not suffering from tuberculosis.

The next table shows the admissions and discharges to Westmorland Sanatorium.

			In Institutions on Jan. 1.	Admitted during the year.	Discharged during the year	Died in the Institution	In Institutions on Dec. 31.
Number of Patients.	Adults	M.	9	19	13	2	13
		F.	15	19	12	10	12
	Ch'd'n		3	4	4	—	3
Number of Observation Cases.	Adults	M.	—	2	2	—	—
		F.	—	1	1	—	—
	Ch'd'n		—	3	3	—	—
Total			27	48	35	12	28

There were also a few patients (non-pulmonary cases) treated at Calgarth Hospital or at the Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

X-Rays.—There were 228 films taken in connection with Dispensary patients.

As in previous years the District Nurses in their individual districts have been responsible for keeping in touch with, and reporting on, the notified cases in their own area. This method continues to work well and satisfactorily, and my thanks are due to them all for their help, and perhaps especially to Nurses Thornburrow and Fagan, who attend at the Kendal Dispensary, and Nurse Briggs who assists at the Appleby Dispensary.

In conclusion I offer my grateful thanks to all members of the Staff who have helped in the carrying on of the work of the Sanatorium during a difficult year, and a special mead of praise must be extended not only to the Secretary, who has coped nobly with an ever-increasing deluge of returns, permits, coupons, etc., but also to the Matron, who has worked valiantly and successfully in the face

of the difficulties arising from the problems of catering and from the frequent shortages of domestic and nursing personnel.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. MUNRO CAMPBELL,

Medical Superintendent

and County Clinical Tuberculosis Officer.

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS.

The Milk Special Designations (Amendment) Order, 1938, is carried out by the Divisional Inspector, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, in co-operation with the County Police.

During the period 1st January—31st December, 1941, 30 animals were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order of 1938 as follows:—

17 Cows in Milk—

5 suffered from tuberculous udders.

11 suffered from chronic cough, etc.

1 suffered from emaciation.

12 other Cows or Heifers—

4 suffered from a tuberculous udder.

7 suffered from chronic cough, etc.

1 suffered from emaciation.

1 other bovine suffering from chronic cough, etc.

The compensation to owners is now paid direct by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

I desire to thank the Divisional Inspector for his ever-ready and valued help in investigating bovine tuberculosis.

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

The systematic examination of milk samples for the bacterial count and for the presence of *Bacillus Tuberculosis* was commenced in November, 1932.

The following figures deal with the period November, 1932, to 31st December, 1941:—

BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK (for the presence of *Bacillus Tuberculosis*).

Period.	Total Cows.	Samples		T.B.	
		reported on.		Neg.	Pos.
14th Nov., 1932, to 31st					
Dec., 1940 ...	... 39296	... 2773	...	2749	24
1st Jan., 1941, to 31st					
Dec., 1941 ...	... 3122	... 207	...	207	—
	<hr/> 42418	<hr/> 2980		<hr/> 2956	<hr/> 24
	<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

(Methylene Blue Test for Cleanliness).

	Total Cows.	No. of bulk Samples.	Satis- fac- tory.	Unsatis- fac- tory.	Neg. for B.Coli.	Coliform Bacilli present in 1/100 m.		
						1 tube	2 tubes	3 tubes
Non-Designated								
Producers ...	4534	298	98	193	109	19	23	140

(Of the 298 samples taken 2 were tested by the phosphatase test and were found to be satisfactory, and 5 samples were tested for dirt content only; 101 were repeat samples—result: 24 satisfactory, 77 unsatisfactory).

The regular supervision of Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milk is carried out by the County Agricultural Organiser.

The foregoing figures show that in the biological examination of Milk for *Bacillus Tuberculosis*, of the 2,980 samples representing the milk from 42,418 cows, 24 samples were positive.

Immediately on receipt of a positive Laboratory report on a sample the Divisional Inspector is informed and makes arrangements for the examination of the herds involved, for the excluding from the milk herd any suspected cows, for the taking of individual samples from such cows for biological examination, and for a bulk sample being taken from the rest of the herd. Cows proved to be yielding the germ in their milk are destroyed.

As regards the Methylene Blue Test and the B.Coli tests for cleanliness, the above figures show that a considerable number of the samples are not of a high standard of cleanliness.

A duplicate copy of the Laboratory report on each sample is passed to the Medical Officer of Health of the Westmorland Combined Districts, who, through the various Sanitary Inspectors, informs the milk producer. When an unsatisfactory report is received steps are taken to encourage the producer in question to overhaul his methods and to secure cleaner milk. The active co-operation of the County Agricultural Organiser is invaluable here.

Return showing the numbers of persons successfully vaccinated and re-vaccinated at the cost of the rates by the Medical Officers of Institutions and the Public Vaccinators during the year ended 30th September, 1941:—

Vaccination District.	Numbers of successful Primary Vaccinations of persons :—			Number of Successful Re-vaccinations, <i>i.e.</i> , successful vaccinations of persons who had been successfully vaccinated at some previous time.
	Under one year of age.	One year and upwards.	TOTAL.	
North Westmorland	48	3	51	6
South Westmorland	97	7	104	Nil
TOTALS	145	10	155	6

PUBLIC HEALTH (VENEREAL DISEASES) REGULATIONS.

Westmorland patients are treated at the V.D. Clinic at the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle.

Ten new patients underwent treatment at the clinic in 1941, of whom 1 was suffering from Gonorrhoea, 4 from Syphilis and 5 from other conditions. The total attendances of patients, old and new, numbered 43.

All applicants, before admission to St. Monica's Maternity Home for unmarried mothers, have the Wassermann test applied. Should any prove positive they are admitted to the Hope Maternity Hospital, Leeds, for appropriate treatment. One patient was admitted to this Hospital during 1941.

In 1941, 93 blood specimens were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, of which 11 were positive and 80 negative, and 8 doubtful tests were made. Drugs were supplied to private practitioners for 2 patients.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1941.

No. of children treated.	Under 5.	School age.	Total.
Appleby	63	82	145
North Westmorland ..	327	653	980
Lakes U.D.C. ..	112	199	311
Windermere U.D.C. ..	83	311	394
South Westmorland R.D.C.	332	621	953
Kendal	260	727	987
	1177	2593	3770

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.**Ibbosholme Sick Bay, Windermere.**

This Sick Bay was opened in September, 1940, for the care of evacuated children suffering from minor ailments.

The following cases were admitted in 1941:—

Ailments.	No. of Cases.
Rickets	1
Adenitis	6
Rheumatism	2
Alopecia	1
Debility	19
Bronchitis	4
Orthopaedic	15
Asthma	3
Tonsils	8
Fractures	4
Colitis	3
T.B. Ankle	2
Cleansing	16
Eczema	1
V.D.H.	1
Skin	4
Injury	2
T.B. Wrist	1
Otitis	4
Appendicitis	2
Heart	1
Epilepsy	2
Pneumonia	1
Enuresis	23
Osteomyelitis	1
Abscess of Jaw	1
Nephritis	1
Septic Mouth	1
Septic Thigh	1
Abscess of Neck	1
Total	132

CASUALTY BUREAU.

The various duties in connection with the Casualty Bureau are being carried out as before; daily returns of service sick and empty beds are made to the Ministry of Health in accordance with information received from the County Hospital and Morland Hall Convalescent Hospital. Reports have been made of injuries received by A.R.P. Personnel and in the event of any local air activity full arrangements have been made for reporting casualties according to instructions.

CIVIL NURSING RESERVE.

The work in connection with the above had considerably increased by the end of 1941. The number of girls serving at the end of 1941 was as follows:—

Trained Nurses ..	8
Assistant Nurses ..	5
Nursing Auxiliaries ..	52